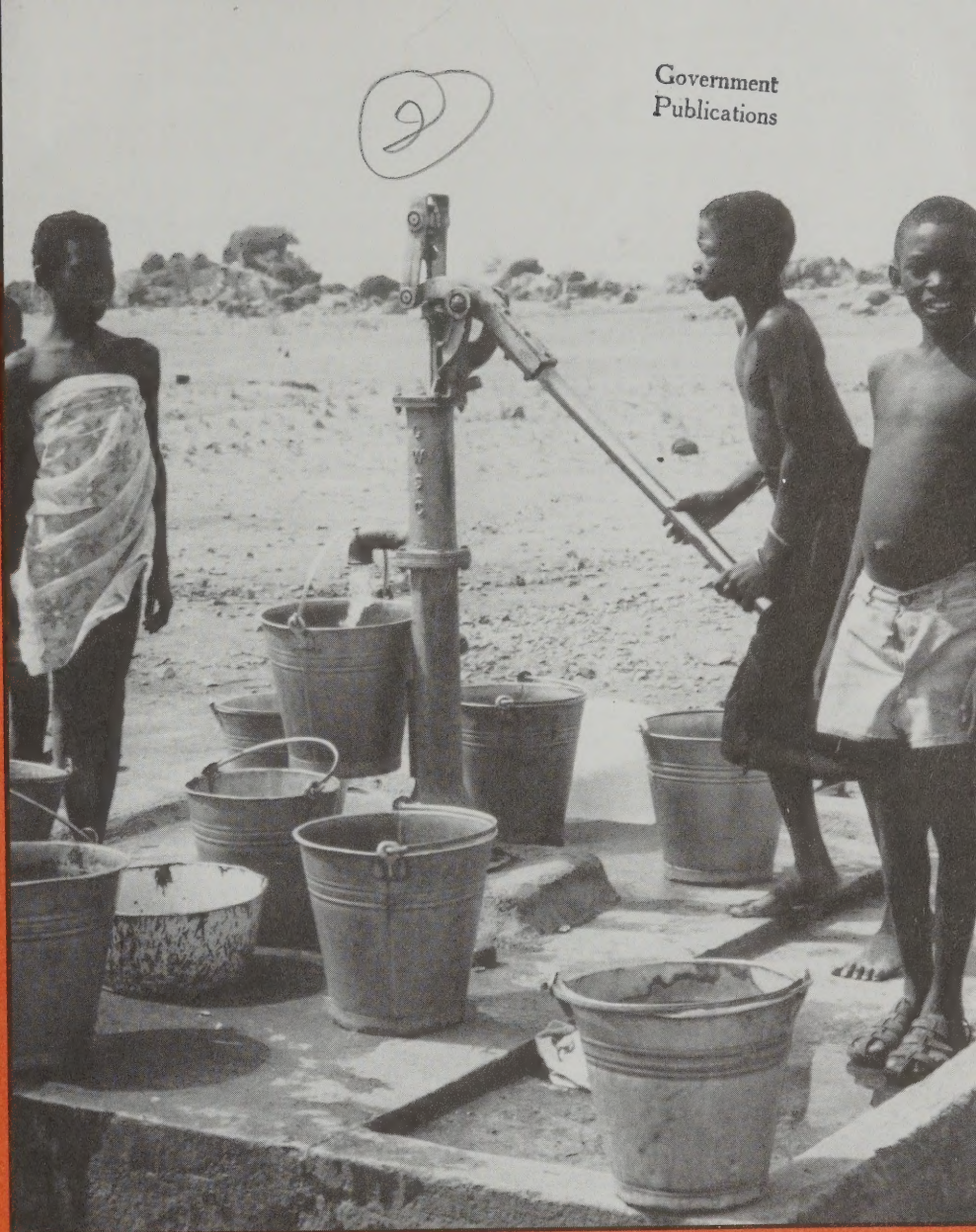
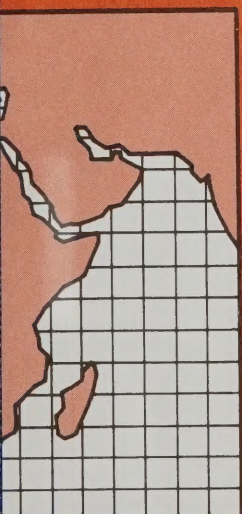


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Agence canadienne de  
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Government  
Publications



# Country Profile

# Ghana

Canada







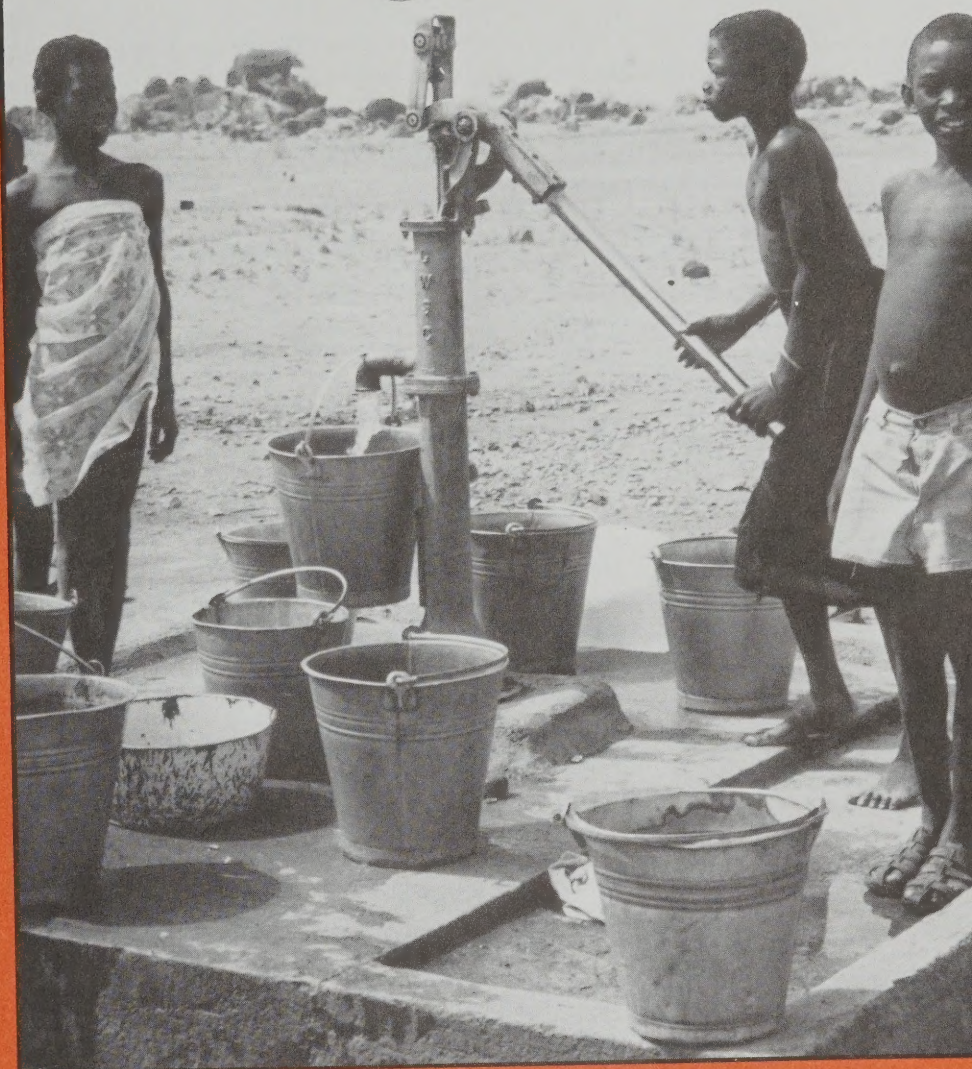
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# Country Profile **Ghana**

Canada





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# COUNTRY PROFILE

Official name	Republic of Ghana
Capital	Accra
Topography	Tropical rain forest, hills, streams, northern savannah
Climate	Tropical
Principal crops	cocoa
Resources	Gold, bauxite, diamonds, timber, petroleum
Official language	English
Other languages spoken	Ashante, Fante, Ewe, Ga, Dagbane, Twi
Ethnic groups	Kwa, Gur
Religions	Christianity, animism, Muslim
Date of independence	March 6, 1957

## Comparative data

	<u>Ghana</u>	<u>Canada</u>
Area	239,000 km <sup>2</sup>	9,976,000 km <sup>2</sup>
Population (1983)	12.8 million	24.3 million
Population density	54 persons/km <sup>2</sup>	2.4 persons/km <sup>2</sup>
Urbanization	38 %	75 %
Population growth rate (1973-1983) (per cent)	3.1 %	1.2 %
Life expectancy at birth (1983)	59 years	76 years
Infant mortality rate (1983)	97/1000 live births	9/1000 live births
Daily per capita calorie supply as percentage of requirement (1982)	68 %	129 %
Adult literacy rate	30.2 %	99 %

	<u>Ghana</u>	<u>Canada</u>
Primary school enrolment (1982)		
Total	76 %	104 %
boys	85 %	105 %
girls	66 %	103 %
Percentage of labor force in		
agriculture	53 %	5 %
industry	20 %	29 %
services	27 %	66 %
% of population of under 15 (1983)	46.6 %	23.2 %
Gross national product per capita (1982)	\$310	\$12,310
GNP average annual growth rate (1965-1983)	-2.1 %	2.5 %
Inflation rate (1970-1982)	51.6 %	9.3 %
External public debt as % of GNP	28.3 %	1.35 %
Debt service as % of GNP	1.9 %	4.96 %
Current account balance	US \$218 million	US \$1,380 million
Principal exports	Cocoa, gold, timber, bauxite, diamonds	
Principal imports	Oil, capital equipment, food, raw materials, mineral fuels and lubricants	
Exports to Canada	Fish	
Imports from Canada	Wheat, fish, fertilizer, metalworking machinery	
Principal trading partners	U.K., U.S., West Germany, Japan, France	



## COUNTRY PROGRAMS

The Canadian development assistance program in Ghana is the oldest in Africa. From modest beginnings soon after Ghana's independence in 1958, Canada's program grew steadily. Annual disbursements have averaged \$12.43 million over the past five years, and reached a high of approximately \$17 million in 1984-85. Total disbursements since the program began have reached nearly \$200 million.

This assistance is provided bilaterally (under government-to-government agreements), but Canadian aid also reaches Ghana through various non-governmental channels and through multilateral organizations. Details of these other forms of assistance are provided under the headings of Special Programs and Multilateral Assistance.

### BILATERAL PROGRAM

From an early concentration on technical assistance and training, the program broadened considerably, especially in the 1970s, to include projects in infrastructure such as hydro-electric projects and road maintenance, rural and urban water supplies, topographic mapping, technical education and agricultural development. Examples of some of these earlier projects include Canada's participation in the multi-lender financing of the Kpong hydroelectric facility; assistance for water supply projects in Accra and Tema, Ghana's main administrative and commercial centres, and in the Upper Region, where wells were drilled and hand pumps supplied for 1,000 villages; assistance in the establishment of the Kumasi Technical Institute and the Accra Technical Training Centre; and development of courses at the Ghana Institute for Management and Public Administration. Food aid was also a major element of the program from 1966 to 1977.

By the mid to late 1970s, the major goal of CIDA's program was to increase production and employment in rural areas and improve the quality of rural life, particularly in Northern Ghana. To meet these objectives, CIDA assisted in improving feeder roads, supported grain transport and storage, and provided research and extension programs for maize, livestock and intermediate technology.

The current program has two major goals. First, the emphasis on assisting the rural population to meet their basic needs and arresting any further decline in social infrastructure is continuing. Secondly, Canada is participating in a multi-donor effort to support Ghana's economic rehabilitation, through revitalization of the productive sector and improvements to management and administrative capacity. Details of current bilateral projects follow in the description of key sectors.

#### Agriculture, Rural Development, and Water Supply

Despite the prevalence of agriculture as an occupation, Ghana does not produce enough food to meet its domestic requirements. Ten years ago, Ghana produced surpluses in all food crops except rice, but declining production, low government-controlled crop prices and increasing population caused per capita food production to drop by more than three per cent a year during the 1970s. Food imports rose dramatically as three years of drought in the early 1980s turned crisis into



catastrophe. Ghana faced food shortages in everything except cassava. (Other important foods grown in Ghana are yams, maize, millet, sorghum, rice, and fruit and vegetable crops).

As food availability decreased, prices soared, rising by almost 1,800 per cent between 1976 and 1984. Normal rains returned to Ghana in 1984, however. Maize production increased substantially and prices dropped to one-tenth of their level the previous year. However, Ghana remains vulnerable to climatic instability and the difficult economic situation still facing the country.

In the remote Upper and Northern Regions of Ghana, the hot, dry air of the Sahara causes a long dry season when high temperatures bake the soil so that vegetation is limited to savanna. In the Northern Region, CIDA is working with the government on a long-term integrated rural development plan to improve the standard of living of the rural poor. Phase one, which has just been completed at a cost of around \$6 million, entailed the design of a development strategy and investment program for specific areas of the region. The implementation of this multi-sectoral strategy is to begin under phase two in 1986 and will cost about \$30 million over five years.

The project is directed primarily at small farmers and their families in two selected areas in the region. The sectors covered will include water supply, health, agriculture (food crops, livestock, fisheries), roads, forestry and community development. Funding is also earmarked for small-scale enterprise, technical training and extension education. The water supply project provides for borehole construction, handpump maintenance, rehabilitation of small mechanized systems and hydrological monitoring. In health, activities cover a large-scale immunization program, upgrading of primary health centres and support for the regional offices of the Ministry of Health. Agricultural initiatives include extension training, provision of insecticides and other scarce inputs, farm credit, a study of alternate storage techniques, dry season forage, dam and dugout rehabilitation, aquaculture and bullock breeding. In the roads sector, arterial, secondary and feeder roads as well as certain bridge approaches will be rehabilitated. Under forestry, a number of community woodlots are to be developed for fruit production, firewood and erosion control. Small scale entrepreneurs, meanwhile, will be assisted through the importation of scarce materials and provision of credit. Community development workers will play a central role in enlisting the support of target groups for all these various initiatives.

In the Upper Regions, CIDA has been extensively involved for over a decade in a \$17 million program to provide the people with an assured supply of potable water. The deficiency of potable water prior to commencement of the project, coupled with ignorance of appropriate health and sanitation practices and variable local food production, created a cycle of disease and poverty. As noted earlier, wells were drilled and 2,500 hand pumps supplied to some 1,000 villages. A water treatment plant was designed and constructed at Bolgatanga and borehole water supply systems were upgraded at Bawku and Wa. This phase was completed at the end of 1981.



A related project, begun in 1978 and now in its second phase, included training of villagers in hand pump maintenance, community health education, community development, and water and sanitation-related self-help projects. Funding for the two phases of this project totals \$7 million.

Another component of the Upper Region's program began in 1983 and includes the replacement of some of the pumps installed at the early stages, completion of water supply systems in Bolgatanga, Wa and Bawku, the provision of vehicles, equipment and spare parts, and the provision of technical assistance. This approximately \$8 million project is nearing completion. The impact of these projects has been felt especially by village women who previously spent hours trekking to distant water holes and can now spend more time tending family crops.

Under the heading of agriculture, another CIDA undertaking is the grains development project. A \$2 million first phase, begun in 1979, involved development of maize-growing technology and was implemented by the Crops Research Institute and the Grains and Legume Development Board of Ghana, and the International Centre for Maize and Wheat Improvement (CIMMYT) of Mexico. Phase two began in 1983 and aims to increase maize and legume production in Ghana using the improved technology: existing maize and legume breeding programs are being expanded, research and production staff are being upgraded, and transportation and training aids are being provided for field officers to further the agricultural extension component. The field trials are being carried on throughout the country. This phase involves roughly \$6 million in CIDA funding.

### Energy

Although some progress has been made in the area of oil production and hydro-electric development, Ghana still has to import some 40 per cent of its energy requirements. Moreover, the rise in oil prices in 1979 and 1980 imposed a crippling burden on the balance of payments.

Canada, one of 7 lending agencies, assisted Ghana with the development of its hydro-electric potential when it provided a \$35 million loan to assist in the construction of the Kpong hydro-electric plant in 1977. The plant, which is 40 miles downstream from Akosombo, was established to supplement the country's main source of supply at Akosombo. The Volta River Authority (VRA) oversees the operation of these plants. Canada also assisted the VRA in establishing a permanent Ghanaian-staffed training facility for the training of VRA personnel and is currently assisting the VRA by providing a \$7 million line of credit to be used to procure essential maintenance equipment, spare parts and material to support power generation and transmission.

Canada is also providing \$854,000 in funding toward an energy assessment and management assistance project being carried out by the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme. The project will assist Ghana in managing, coordinating and improving the situation in its energy sector.



In addition, Canada is providing \$271,600 to assist the VRA in the establishment of an energy conservation office to promote long-term electric power conservation practices in Ghana and to contribute to the efficient and effective use of hydro-electric power by consumers.

Meanwhile in the oil sector, Petro-Canada International Assistance (PCIAC), the aid affiliate of the government-owned Petro-Canada, is engaged in oil exploration to assist Ghana in developing domestic oil supplies. PCIAC disbursements totalled approximately \$38 million in calendar year 1984 and \$1.6 million in calendar 1985.

#### Human Resource Development

In Africa, perhaps more than anywhere else in the world, weaknesses in the human resource base limit the achievement of development objectives. In the late 1960s, CIDA recognized Ghana's technical and vocational training needs, and provided funds for the construction and equipping of two large technical training institutes, namely the Accra Technical Training Centre (ATTC), opened in 1968, and the Kumasi Technical Institute (KTI), completed in 1981. These institutions offer full-time day, part-time evening and pre-employment courses in technical and vocational subjects. In 1984, the rehabilitation of the facilities, the provision of equipment and supplies and further curriculum development work in most courses were identified as immediate priorities at both institutes.

Technical assistance is also being provided to the International Technology Transfer Unit at the University of Science and Technology in Kumasi. The Unit provides a consultancy service to small-scale entrepreneurs, and the \$323,000 in assistance is to stimulate research on techniques that would be useful to these businesses.

In 1984, CIDA assisted Ghana's National Council for Women in Development to gather and catalogue information on all women's organizations and programs as well as activities which relate to women in the Upper and Northern Regions. A consultant visited Ghana in early 1985 in order to assist CIDA to identify a WID programming strategy for the Ghana program.

Through a new country focus program introduced at CIDA in the last few years, bilateral funds are used for the delivery of assistance in collaboration with Canadian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or other non-profit institutions. CIDA is currently financing the Carleton/GIMPA (Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration) Management Training Program, which will strengthen its teaching program in budgeting, financial management and project planning, implementation and evaluation. CIDA funding for the project totals almost \$500,000.

#### Balance-of-Payments Support

As noted earlier, the second major thrust of Canada's development assistance program in Ghana is support of the country's economic recovery program as part of a coordinated multi-donor effort. To this



end, CIDA provided \$5 million in 1984 for critically-needed agriculture and transportation inputs, and in 1985, an additional \$7 million was extended for tires and lubricants. These projects formed part of the International Development Association's Reconstruction Import Credit to Ghana.

### Health

In addition to the regular annual contribution made by Canada in the form of multilateral assistance to UNICEF (see Multilateral Assistance), CIDA provided \$880,000 in bilateral funds for UNICEF's national immunization campaign in Ghana, to vaccinate children against measles and six other preventable diseases.

### Mission-Administered Funds

Canadian Embassies and High Commissions in developing countries respond to requests from local community groups in need of funds for small projects. In the case of Ghana, the allocation for 1984-85 was \$250,000 and the primary emphasis was on health, community development and education. Examples include the provision of vaccines, village sanitation, transportation for extension services in the fields of health and literacy, construction of a pharmacy, day care facilities and community centres, provision of school furniture, as well as material assistance to a women's cooperative farming project and a vocational centre.

### SPECIAL PROGRAMS

CIDA's collaboration with non-governmental organizations began in 1968, and has since expanded to include diverse activities sponsored by many different types of groups and institutions. The Special Programs Branch contributes to development cooperation projects initiated by voluntary organizations and non-profit institutions which cooperate with their counterparts in developing countries. Most programs in the Branch provide funds which "match" or enhance contributions in cash and in services by the participants in Canada and in the developing country, so that the value of a project is often much greater than the CIDA funding amount suggests.

CIDA contributions to non-governmental projects in Ghana reached \$589,684 for 57 projects during 1984-85. This figure does not include the Ghana component of funding provided for volunteer-sending agencies (e.g. CUSO) or regional programs (e.g. the Association of African Universities). Neither does it include projects implemented by NGOs but financed by Bilateral or Multilateral Branches (e.g. milk powder shipments or "country focus" projects). The primary emphasis has been on community-based rural development: for example, providing clean water, sanitation facilities and basic health services; training and education programs, including some specifically for women; and support for cooperatives and other means of generating income. The following are examples of the types of projects receiving funding from the Special Programs Branch.



### NGO Program

Religious organizations are very much involved: the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace (CCODP) supports numerous small community-based projects in agricultural training, water supply, health facilities, etc.; the Wycliffe Bible Translators of Canada are working on literacy program in northern Ghana. Quebec-based Club 2/3 is contributing a number of small projects involving rural schools, water systems, labour-saving grain-grinding mills, and health services; the Presbyterian Church has promoted job creation for young people; the Sudan Interior Mission of Canada is contributing to community health services; and World Vision of Canada is supporting village development projects with the emphasis on water, sanitation and child care. Women's organizations (MATCH International Centre and the YWCA) are assisting rural women with agricultural cooperatives, day care and income generation, while the Anglican Church of Canada supports a women's training centre among its activities in rural development. Institute Fame Pereo is helping to eradicate leprosy, and Rotary Clubs are providing funds for village water. In addition, some NGOs have provided foodstuffs to meet emergency needs in Ghana on occasion.

### Institutional Cooperation and Development Services Program

This program enables CIDA to support joint ventures by Canadian and Ghanaian institutions such as universities, colleges, unions, cooperatives, and professional associations. It also provides funds for co-operant-sending agencies.

CUSO has a history of development cooperation throughout Ghana, where its co-operants have worked particularly on community development and water supplies, especially in the north. Canadian Crossroads International also sends co-operants on short-term assignments to Ghana. Canadian and Ghanaian professional associations are collaborating as well. The Canadian Home Economics Association, under its international twinning program, is facilitating work by the Saskatchewan association and its Ghanaian counterpart in developing textbooks based on local experience. The Canadian Geotechnical Society is providing three-month fellowships for three Ghanaian engineers to acquire practical experience with construction contractors in Canada, while two Canadian specialists lecture on tour in Ghana as part of an on-going technical exchange. In addition, the Cooperative Development Foundation of Canada has provided assistance to an insurance cooperative.

### International NGO Program (INGO)

Through INGO, CIDA offers support to internationally-based organizations whose programs often span many countries. Some of these provide financial support to member organizations for their national activities; an example is the International Planned Parenthood Federation. The Association of African Universities, which is headquartered in Ghana, promotes contact and cooperation among university institutions in Africa, as well as between its members and the international academic world.



### Management for Change Program (MFC)

The purpose of this small program is to stimulate and support innovative ways of strengthening the management capabilities of developing countries, especially to adapt to their changing needs and environment. Acting as a catalyst for short-term activities, it brings together key executives to share experiences and explore new approaches to management questions. It gives preference to regional rather than national initiatives, and also seeks to improve the management capacity of groups (women, NGO and rural development managers) that often do not benefit from established training programs.

Senior Ghanaians have been participants in certain MFC projects such as regional "round-tables" sponsored by the African Association for Public Administration and Management (AAPAM). The 1985 AAPAM meeting in Accra, held in December, focused on the food crisis in Africa, in particular seeking solutions to policy and management problems.

### MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE

Multilateral assistance involves the pooling of resources by donor countries which are members of international organizations like the World Bank, the regional development banks, the various agencies of the United Nations and so on. These organizations then use these resources in support of development projects in Third World countries. Multilateral assistance from all sources comprises about 50 per cent of total net official development assistance to Ghana. (Bilateral or government-to-government assistance account for the remainder).

Canadian multilateral assistance is mainly channeled to Ghana through the African Development Bank (AFDB) and its special loan fund, the African Development Fund (AFDF), through the World Bank institutions known as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA), through UN agencies, the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

For the five-year period from 1980 to 1984 inclusive, the AFDB approved loans to Ghana totalling U.S. \$36.1 million. The AFDF approved loans totalling U.S. \$68.2 million, directed to agricultural projects: lines of credit were advanced through Ghana's Agricultural Development Bank to assist small-scale food producers; a loan was approved for an agro-industrial plantation at Subri to expand technology in food production and silviculture; and financing for rehabilitation in agriculture and road transportation was provided in conjunction with CIDA, the World Bank, and other donors. The ADB approved loan assistance for the rehabilitation and modernization of Ghana Railways, and a line of credit through the National Investment Bank for the purpose of industrial rehabilitation.

Canadian capital subscriptions to the AFDB were \$11.71 million each for 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85. (There were no investments in 1980-81 or 1981-82). Canadian advances to the AFDF have averaged \$32.2 million a year from 1980-81 to 1984-85.



From 1980 to 1984 inclusive, IDA approved loans to Ghana totalling U.S. \$281.8 million. There were no IBRD loans to Ghana during the period. The largest proportion (41 per cent) of the IDA lending was provided to assist Ghana with its economic recovery, through rehabilitation of its traditional export industries and funding for essential imports. The agricultural and transportation sectors each received around 19 per cent of IDA loans over the period for projects to enhance rural infrastructure and increase food production, to maintain roads, and to rehabilitate and modernize railways. Other lending was for small-scale enterprises, water supply and sewerage, and petroleum exploration.

Canadian advances to IDA have averaged \$160.48 million a year over the five years from 1980-81 to 1984-85.

The largest organization in the UN development system is the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); in fact, it is the world's largest technical assistance organization and its projects are often executed through the intermediary of the more specialized UN agencies. During the 1982-86 UNDP planning cycle, spending in Ghana is expected to reach U.S. \$22 million. Some of the principal projects funded by the UNDP involve food production, rural development in areas plagued by onchocerciasis or river blindness, prevention of harvest losses, improvements in agricultural information, and operational assistance to the country's gold-mining industry.

Canada's contributions to the UNDP's regular worldwide programs have averaged \$52.4 million a year for the five years from 1980-81 to 1984-85.

Other UN agencies for which Canada provides regular program funding and which are active in Ghana are the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the UN Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). UNICEF spent U.S. \$1.5 million in Ghana in 1984, mostly in emergency relief for drought victims. Formal education, water supply and sanitation, and project planning were other areas of assistance. Canada's annual contribution to UNICEF's global programs has averaged \$11.99 million from 1980-81 to 1984-85.

The UNFPA allocated U.S. \$518,024 for Ghana in 1984 for assistance with the national family planning program and the processing of census data. Canada's contribution to the UNFPA has averaged \$9.13 million a year from 1980-81 to 1984-85.

As with other multilateral institutions, Canada makes regular contributions to help meet the operating cost of agencies involved in humanitarian assistance (e.g. \$5.5 million to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees; \$6.5 million to the UN Relief and Works Agency; and \$750,000 to the International Committee of the Red Cross in 1984-85). Additional funds are granted in direct response to emergency situations caused by natural and man-made disasters, civil strife, and to alleviate the hardship of refugees.

Canadian contributions for humanitarian assistance in Ghana in recent years have been for the relief of drought victims: \$150,000 through the Canadian Council of Churches and \$50,000 through the Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace/Caritas in 1983-84; and \$128,307 to World Vision from the Special Fund for Africa in 1984-85.



Canada is the largest contributor (\$14.6 million in 1984-85) to the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CFTC), which is the principal mechanism for technical assistance within the Commonwealth. It draws the majority of its experts from developing countries, and nearly all training is carried out in the Third World. In 1983-84 Ghana received assistance totalling U.S. \$878,100, nearly half of which was for general technical assistance in public administration, financial management, industry, and transportation and communications. Technical assistance from the industrial and export market development unit comprised another quarter, and fellowships and training, mainly in public administration, agriculture and education were also prominent.

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is another multilateral organization that is involved in Ghana. It constitutes a major global financial and institutional response to the world food crisis. It mobilizes additional resources on concessional terms for the expansion and improvement of food production systems, with special emphasis on small farmers and landless laborers in developing countries. Canada has issued notes totalling \$42 million to IFAD over the 1980-81 to 1984-85 period. Since it began lending in 1978, IFAD has approved one loan for Ghana: U.S. \$12.2 million in 1980 to increase agricultural production and the income of smallholders in the Volta Region. The project introduced improved farming technology, farm support services and enhanced rural infrastructure.

#### Food Aid

Longer-term efforts to help Ghana achieve food self-sufficiency are complemented by more immediate measures to combat food shortages. In order to ease the pressure on the balance of payments caused by costly food imports, 17,000 metric tons of wheat with a value of \$4.9 million was provided to Ghana under a 1984-85 bilateral agreement. An additional \$5 million worth of food aid is being provided this year.

Canadian food aid, in addition to being provided under bilateral agreements, is also channeled to developing countries through the World Food Programme (WFP), a UN institution associated with the Food and Agriculture Organization. The WFP supports feeding programs for nutritionally vulnerable groups, and uses food aid in food-for-work projects to provide work and income for the unemployed. During the severe drought in 1983 and 1984, Canadian food aid in the form of wheat and canned fish having a value of \$7.3 million was supplied to Ghana through the WFP and its International Emergency Food Reserve.

Finally, through a joint program with 14 Canadian NGOs (including Hope International Development Agency, formerly Food for the Hungry, Canadian Lutheran World Relief, World Vision and the Salvation Army), CIDA provides funds for shipment of skim milk powder and other foods to developing countries. Through its program, Ghana received 315 metric tons of skim milk powder, 128 metric tons of canned fish, 275 metric tons of vegetable oil, and 15 metric tons of wheat with a total value of \$865,707 over the 1980-85 period.



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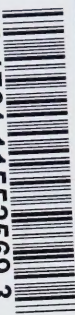
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